## UTXPICS

## COLLECTIVE IMPACT: A YEAR OF CONNECTIONS

As holiday parties and family gatherings are happening, we celebrate the spirit of connection and togetherness that defines both the holiday season and the DESIGN CAMPUS Network. Gathering with others—be it family, friends, or collaborators—reminds us of the importance of shared values and mutual support. Priya Parker, in her book <a href="The Art of Gathering">The Art of Gathering</a>, highlights how intentional spaces foster meaningful connections—a necessity for meaningful change. This idea lies at the heart of the DESIGN CAMPUS's mission and reflects the values we uphold.

The Network pillar, one of our four foundational elements—Museum, Lab, School, and Network—represents our commitment to fostering meaningful relationships and collaborations. Rooted in the utopic ideals of the DESIGN CAMPUS, the Network is inclusive, global, and driven to recalibrate our path and creatively search for better ways forward. By connecting visionary designers, curious researchers, progressive institutions, and open-minded practitioners, we address the complex questions needed to shape a better world.

This year, we've seen the power of this network come to life through inspiring collaborations, here are some highlights:

- Through the <u>Made In Platform</u>, we deepened connections across Europe, culminating in our participation at the recent network conference in Belgrade. This initiative has flourished since our collaboration began in 2023.
- Invited by the <u>Dutch Embassy in Berlin</u>, we joined an inspiring group of design and cultural leaders from Germany to experience the innovation and creativity of <u>Dutch Design Week</u>.
- Our engagement with neighbouring <u>Designblok</u> continues to grow, and we're honored to serve as a jury member for this prominent Prague based International Design Fetival in 2024.

- Our longstanding collaboration with <u>German Design Graduates</u>, established in 2020, once again brought exceptional talent to our Summer School, fostering creativity and innovation.
- We showcased the transformative potential of design across Germany through impactful exhibitions produced or coproduced by the DESIGN CAMPUS: <u>All in! Re-Designing</u> <u>Democracy</u> at the Bundeskunsthalle in Bonn and <u>PURe Vision:</u> <u>Plastic Furniture between East and West</u> at the Museum Utopie und Alltag in Eisenhüttenstadt.
- We are excited to announce that Thomas A. Geisler will serve as an advisor for the World Design Capital 2026 in Frankfurt, reinforcing our commitment to design's global impact.
- Last but not least, we are deeply grateful for the connections made through the Summer School, especially with Rotterdam based <u>Studio Makkink & Bey</u>, who curated the exhibition and workshop program, <u>WATERSCHOOL: A Speculation in Four Seasons</u>, this year.

This holiday season reminds us of the strength and beauty of community. It's a time to celebrate, reflect, and support one another, finding joy in shared moments and collective purpose. In this spirit, we discover hope, inspiration, and the drive to build a brighter future—one defined by empathy, creativity, and unity.

Thank you for being an essential part of this journey. Your energy, ideas, and dedication make the DESIGN CAMPUS a thriving global network. We look forward to building on these connections and embarking on new collaborations in 2025.

Until then, we wish you a joyous holiday season filled with warmth, inspiration, and togetherness. Here's to a bright and collaborative new year!

Warm wishes,

- -- Thomas, Aline, and Team DESIGN CAMPUS
- -- Thomas A. Geisler

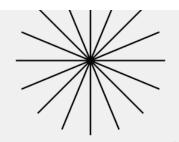
Design Campus and Kunstgewerbemuseum Director

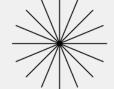
-- Aline Lara Rezende, Editor and

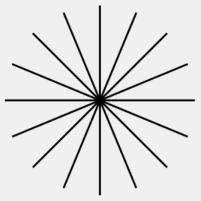
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## Happy holidays!



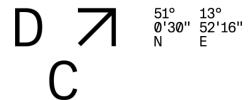


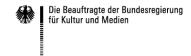




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